

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 EA-06 IO-03 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 /035 W
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O 180940Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5809
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
INFO JCRC SAMAE SAN THAI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 6598

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP, PFOR, US, UN, LA
SUBJECT: CODEL MONTGOMERY SCHEDULE DECEMBER 21 - 22

REF: A) STATE 297834 (DTG 180041Z DEC 75), NOTAL
B) VIENTIANE 6595 (DTG 180545Z DEC 75)

1. SAW SECSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS KHAMPAY BOUPHA AT 1430 HOURS LOCAL DECEMBER 18, INFORMED HIM OF CODEL'S PLANS FOR VISIT TO VIENTIANE DECEMBER 22 AND 23 AND ASKED FOR MEETINGS WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER PHOUNE SIPRASEUTH AND WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, DEFENSE MINISTER AND COMMANDER-IN-CHEIF KHAMTAY SIPHANDONE, AFTERNOON DECEMBER 22 OR MORNING DECEMBER 23. KHAMPAY BOUPHA SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS WITH PHOUNE SIPRASEUTH (DUE BACK FROM PHNOM PENH LATER IN DAY) AND INFORM ME.

2. I INFORMED KHAMPAY BOUPHA WE WOULD BE PREQUESTING CLEARANCE FOR SPECIAL AIRCRAFT TO BRING CODEL IN AND OUT OF VIENTIANE.

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3. I ALSO REQUESTED LAO GOVERNMENT FACILITATION OF

REQUESTS BEING MADE BY UNHCR REP FOR DECEMBER 21 CHARTER FLIGHT.

4. UNLESS LAO PROPOSE SOME HOSPITALITY I PROPOSE, SUBJECT TO CODEL CONCURRENCE, TO HOST DINNER FOR CODEL MONDAY NIGHT DECEMBER 22 WITH WHATEVER LAO OFFICIAL PARTICIPATION WE CAN ARRANGE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS ASPECT OF PROSPECTIVE CODEL VISIT TO LAOS DECEMBER 22-23. WHILE IN PAST USIS HA ISSUED PRESS RELEASES ANNOUNCING ARRIVAL AND PURPOSE OF CODELS AND, AS ON OCCASION OF MONTGOMERY'S LAST VISIT IN JULY, 1974, ARRANGED PRESS CONFERENCES, MISSION CONSIDERS IT BEST AT THIS TIME TO AVOID CALLING SPECIAL ATTENTION TO VISIT. LAO MIGHT SEIZE ON IT AS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLOIT FURTHER THE THEME OF "AMERICAN PEOPLE'S SUPPORT" FOR PATHET LAO OR TO INDULGE IN UNWARRANTED SPECULATION ABOUT U.S. WILLINGNESS TO RESUME AID. (IN ANY CASE, RESIDENT PRESS CORPS HERE NOW IS MADE UP LARGLEY OF COMMUNIST CORRESPONDENTS AND SEMI-PROFESSIONAL STRINGERS.) POST WOULD, HOWEVER, FILE USINFO REPORT SUMARIZING VISIT AND PLACE SIMILAR ITEM IN DAILY LAO AND ENGLISH BULLETINS. RESPONSE TO PRESS INQUIRIES WOULD BE BASEDON CODEL'S INSTRUCTIONS. (DO NOT AT THIS TIME ANTICIPATE SIGNIFICANT ATTENTION TO CODEL'S PROJECTED DECEMBER 21 TRANSITS OF VIENTIANE.)

6 . ALSO, REQUEST TELEGRAPHIC AUTHORITY TO DISBURSE 19FT510 FUNDS TO CODEL.
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